



PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM***(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)*

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	<b>Application Number</b>	10/053,572	
	<b>Filing Date</b>	January 24, 2002	
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Hideto OHNUMA	
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	2812	
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	J. Kennedy	
<b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	0756-2422

**ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration and Power of Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosures 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.
<b>Remarks</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2280 for the above identified docket number.

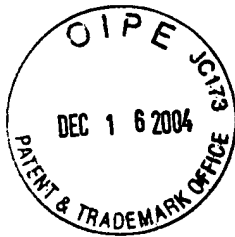
**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

<b>Firm or Individual name</b>	Eric J. Robinson, Reg. No. 38,285 Robinson Intellectual Property Law Office, P.C. PMB 955 21010 Southbank Street Potomac Falls, VA 20165
<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	12-15-04

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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AP/28/2  
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Attorney Docket No. 0756-2422

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Hideto OHNUMA

Serial No. 10/053,572

Filed: January 24, 2002

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING  
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

) Group Art Unit: 2812

) Examiner: J. Kennedy

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Adelle M. Stampen

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Official Action mailed September 16, 2004, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on January 24, 2002, and March 19, 2002.

Claims 1-36 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1-3, 23 and 28-30 are independent. For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Official Action continues to reject claims 1-36 as obvious based on the combination of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0098635 to Zhang et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,966,596 to Ohtani et al. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because the Official Action has not made a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

As stated in MPEP §§ 2142-2143.01, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or